



PRESS RELEASE

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TUBA CITY MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN LIFE SENTENCES

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that Tony Mix, born on June 14, 1961, of Tuba City, Arizona, was sentenced on March 11, 2002, to life imprisonment on seven counts of Kidnaping, Sexual Assaults and Assaults with dangerous weapons, by United States District Judge Paul G. Rosenblatt, in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mix was convicted on September 28, 2001, by a jury in Prescott, Arizona, for the commission of sexual assaults, kidnaping of a woman who had lived on and off with Mix for a period of over three years. The crimes for which he was convicted took place over a two and one-half hour period on October 30, 2000, on the Navajo Indian Reservation. The victim was beaten and sexually assaulted to such a severe extent that Dr. Kristen Nordenholz, the Director of the Tuba City Indian Medical Center, and a veteran emergency room physician who has treated over 25,000 emergency patients stated, "This is the worst case of domestic violence I have ever seen in a living victim."

Dr. Kathleen Ferrarro, the Director of Women's studies at Arizona State University, and an internationally recognized expert on domestic violence, who has worked with battered women for over twenty five years, stated that "this is one of the most brutal violent relationships I have ever observed."

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Evidence at the trial revealed that for over a seventeen year period, Mix had been involved in violent relationships with three different women, including the victim, where he regularly beat and sexually assaulted all of the women to the extent they had to be hospitalized, and all three women suffered severe physical and emotional damage. According to Charles F. Hyder, the Assistant United States Attorney who prosecuted the case, "Tony Mix is a man whose malevolence toward women is such that he dedicated a greater part of his life to the debasement of these women through physical beatings and sexual depravities beyond comprehension. The most chilling aspect of the case was the realization that this conduct by Mix toward women was his way of life." Hyder stressed that the United States Attorney's Office in Arizona is committed to the prosecution of those in Indian Country who have shown they are dangerous sexual and abusive predators.

The investigation of the case was a joint investigation conducted by the Navajo Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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